

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS18878C1

The purpose of this legislation is to reduce the cost of the FY10 Public Schools appropriation to minimize the amount that will have to be cut from teacher and other K-12 staff salaries. Provisions related to reducing costs include the institution of a one-year freeze in movement on the state salary reimbursement grid for years of experience. This will prevent automatic state funding for 3.75% raises in FY10 for teachers and administrators currently moving through the grid. This bill also phases out of the Early Retirement Program for teachers (administrator participation was eliminated in 2003). The legislation also encourages districts to accommodate reductions in state funding for salaries by either reducing the level of pay, or reducing the number of paid contract days, and requires that any reduction in contract days not result in a reduction of student-teacher contact time.

FISCAL NOTE

The provisions related to freezing one year of experience movement on the state salary reimbursement grid will save an estimated \$6.13 million in FY10. The provisions related to phasing out the Early Retirement Program will save \$2.0 million in FY10. In total, this bill will save the state General Fund \$8.13 million in FY 2010.

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